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The report of the Human Rights Commissioner on discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity in Europe

Written declaration¹ No. 491

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

We warmly welcome the publication in June by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights of the most extensive study ever undertaken on homophobia, transphobia and discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity in the 47 member states.

We note with concern the Commissioner's summary of his findings:

“Millions of people in Europe are discriminated, stigmatised and even victims of violence because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. They cannot fully enjoy their universal human rights. There is an urgent need for all European governments to remedy this situation and take policy and legislative measures to combat homophobia and transphobia”,

We call upon member states' governments and delegations to the Parliamentary Assembly to study his findings and to use them as a start point for implementing both his recommendations and those contained in the Committee of Ministers Recommendation (2010)5 on measures to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

We further call upon the Committee of Ministers to put in place effective processes for monitoring the implementation of these recommendations.

Signed (see overleaf)

1. Written Declaration first published on 5 October 2011 with 23 signatures.



*Signed*²:

GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
ACKETOFT Tina, Sweden, ALDE
ÁRNASON Mörður, Iceland, SOC
AXELSSON Lennart, Sweden, SOC
BRAZ Félix, Luxembourg, NR
BRUYN Piet, De, Belgium, NR
CLAPPISON James, United Kingdom, EDG
FLYNN Paul, United Kingdom, SOC
GROTH Annette, Germany, UEL
HÄGG Carina, Sweden, SOC
HARANGOZÓ Gábor, Hungary, SOC
HAUGLI Håkon, Norway, SOC
JOHANSSON Mats, Sweden, EPP/CD
MAELEN Dirk, Van der, Belgium, SOC
MIHALOVICS Péter, Hungary, EPP/CD
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC
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REILLY Kathryn, Ireland, UEL
RUPPRECHT Marlene, Germany, SOC
SAAR Indrek, Estonia, SOC
SHERIDAN Jim, United Kingdom, SOC
STRÄSSER Christoph, Germany, SOC
SYDOW Björn, von, Sweden, SOC
TRETTEBERGSTUEN Anette, Norway, SOC

Total = 24

2. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democrat Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group